



KEYWORDS

JOURNAL FOR THE COMMODORE USERS GROUP OF ST. LOUIS

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BOD Meeting

The Board of Directors met March 6th with 7 members present.

Our treasurer reported a balance of \$799.63.

The membership stands at 32 members with no one in arrears. W. Smith, E. Hummel, S. Booker, F. Thompson, J. McDevitt and E. Dawes renewed. Bill Keeney is the only member due in March.

Old Business: The position of secretary was declared vacant and a motion was made to appoint Clara McClaskey a member of the Board and to hold the office of secretary. Motion carried.

A motion was made to purchase 27 items from Wayne Steinfeldt at a cost of \$120.00 to be used as future raffle items. Motion carried.

Jason Whitener is working on a flyer to publicize the Club.

Discussion was given to having a July 12th Swap Meet. Bill Diamond will check into the availability of the Bridgeton Community Center for that date.

New Business: Rich Scheu received word that Main Line Commodore Users Group has an updated version 6.6 of Fun Graphics Machine. The current issue is v. 6.5. Word on the update will be passed to those interested in this graphics program.

A new list of Commodore support is available and \$2.00 was earmarked to be used to receive a copy of this list.

The demo for the March CUGSL General Meeting will be of Fun Graphics Machine by Joe McDevitt.

In April Jason Whitener will present a Sid Stereo program.

Wayne Steinfeldt has a source for blank

disks and a motion was made that the Club purchase 2,000 disks. Motion carried.

Jason Whitener suggested the Club may be interested in printing a hard copy of the Club Library for sale to members.

A Copy Session is also a project for the future. May 1996 was the last copy session however there were not enough disk drives and 3 1/2" disks to satisfy the needs.

A motion was made to change the name of our future December Party to the Anniversary Party especially in view of our 20th Anniversary coming in January of '98. Motion carried. Also, special plans should be made to contact and invite former members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Clara McClaskey, Secy.

Remember

This is your newsletter and it is available to any member in good standing. If you have anything to comment on or an item you think may be of interest to the club, it will be printed. Also anything to be sold, swapped or wanted can be posted. The only requirement is to have it to me by the 20th of the month. You can Email on The CUGSL BBS. I am number 9 or at <ehummel@mail.win.org> on the Internet.

Home phone 398-5748 (Toll Free) or mail to:

Ed Hummel
2220 Oberhelman Rd.
Foristell, MO 63348



March CUGSL Meeting

Our general meeting began March 13, 1997 at 7:30 p.m. with 11 members and 2 guests, Steve Shei and Mike Farrow, present.

The secretary read the minutes of the March BOD.

The treasurer reported a balance of \$799.63.

The membership chairman stated our membership has held tight at 32.

Our librarian stated all commercial program disks have been removed from the library and we have mostly shareware and freeware.

The March DOM contains: The Visitor, an animation program, Rocklevels which moves for the "Super Rockfall", UUXFER which allows you to upload and download ML files on the Internet, Tubular Bells music, Puzzle.maker the game and GGIrish Castle music and pix for St. Pats Day.

The library now contains the update v 6.6 of FGM. The v 6.5 can be obtained by writing to FGM Connection, P.O. Box 2206, Roseburg, Ore. 97470 and including \$24.95 + \$3.50 s&h. Wayne Steinfeldt will turn over his set of TPUG to the club library.

New Business: Jason Whitener has encountered no problems and is working on printing out a hard copy of the club library. He may color code same if time permits. CUGSL has ordered one copy for our library.

Joe McDewitt gave an excellent demo on how to construct an envelope for 1/4 page greeting cards by using FGM.

The raffle items awarded were: Floyd Kimmel - a game "Russia", Mike Farrow - Speed Writer program and Steve Shei - a 1541 disk drive. The drawing for the lady's watch will be in May.

Respectfully submitted,
Clara McClaskey, Secy.

FAQ (Frequently asked questions)

What is a file extension, and what do they stand for?

A file extension is a 1 or more letter suffix appended to the end of a file name to indicate

the type of file it is. The extension usually indicates the contents of a file. The list below describes some more common file extensions, what they are used for, and how to use the file. Please note that these file extensions are not Commodore-exclu-



sive. Many computers use file extensions. Also note that some file extensions are cumulative. IF a file is named "filename.tar.gz", this indicates that the file is of type "gz", and the file(s) inside the gz file are of type "tar". To use this file, one would note that both extension are archival extensions. One would undo the "gz" archival method to restore the "filename.tar" archive; then undo the "tar" archival method to restore the original file.

Extension: Meaning: Notes: -----

.txt Text File. This file is not compressed, so it needs no decompression step. However, the file may be in either ASCII or PETSCII format, so a conversion step may be necessary. Most terminal programs can do this conversion, and there are stand-alone programs that do the necessary conversion also.

.sda Self-Dissolving. Just load and run the .sda file to Archive dissolve the archive. Will dissolve itself into its constituent files. C64 and C128 .sda files are not compatible with each other.

.sfx Self-Extracting. Load and run just like a .sda file. Archive The same archive can be extracted on either a C64 or a C128, memory permitting.

.arc Archive. Use the program arc250.4 or earlier for the 64 or arc128 for the 128 to dissolve the archive. arc128 is available as part of the CS-DOS package. Other de-archive programs may exist.

.lzh LHArchive. Use the program lhx in CS-DOS on the 128 to dissolve this archive. These are not very common. This archive uses the same format as .sfx files, but is not self-extracting. It is a standard format also used by Amiga (and MS-DOS) computers. This format originated on the PC.

.lnx Lynx Archive. The above formats all compress files when storing them; Lynx just stores them. There are many different versions of Lynx out there, so good luck dissolving these.

.lbr Library Archive. A format similar to lynx. Library dissolving programs exist for both the 64 and 128 to dissolve these.

ZIPCode file. ZIPCode is a program that takes an entire disk and "compacts" it into 4 files that have a number followed by a '!' and then a filename. Also, ZipCode can compress files, in which case the x is a letter (a,b,c,d) and there need not be 4 files. If ZipCode has compressed individual files, there will be an "i!" or "x!"-prefixed file on the disk that holds the directory of the file compressed. To make things even more confusing, there are two versions of ZipCode (v1 and v2). The newer version will accept v1 archives, but not vice-versa. Use ZipCode v2 to unpack such archives.

ZIPCode 6-pack. This is a ZIPCode archive that takes an entire disk and puts it into 6 files, each file containing GCS codes and header info for the tracks. This is basically a nybble copier that stores the data it receives from the disk into files.

.zip ZIP archive. Zip is a file format used on IBM platforms and is created by the PKZip program that is available for some platforms. There are two forms of zip files that have the same extension. Both are created by different versions of PKZip. The first, version 1.01, can be dissolved on a 64 by using the program UNZIP64. The second, newer format is version 2.04, which cannot be dissolved by UNZIP64. Your best solution when in doubt is to dissolve the files on another platform. For the 128, there is a version of the UNZIP64 program, called UNZIP128 that has been modified to run in 128 mode. It is in a file called NZP12817.SFX. This archive also has a 64 version. Compression Kit x = 4,7,8, cmd, or

c(xx) to denote type. Archive of media that was compressed. The files can be extracted only with The Compression Kit, from Mad Man Software.

.t64 DataSette Image. This file is analogous to the .d64 file type, but for tapes.

.p00 PC64 (Emulator). This file encapsulates a Commodore program Program File Image or data file. To extract the original file, remove the first 26 characters. In addition to .p00, there is .s00 (SEQ), and .u00 (USR) files, but are very rare.

.doc Document. This file could be a word processing file from a program like Word for Windows, WordPerfect, or any other word processor. Also, some text files that contain documentation use this extension.

.cvt GEOS file. GEOS files use a special file format. The files are called USR files, but they have special information in the file that normal files don't, so you cannot just upload a GEOS file like any SEQ or PRG file. You can pack all the extra information and the data into a regular Commodore SEQ or PRG file with a program Called Convert. It has a version 2.5 and a 3.0. The files that result from this conversion have the extension. The file must be processed again by Convert before it can be used with GEOS.

Note: This FAQ has been edited to only reflect extensions used by Commodore programs.

The following are looking for manuals:

Joe Mcdevitt - MPS 1200 printer
Jason Whitener - 180 Okidata printer
Steve Shei - 1670 modem

If you have a manual for any of these please contact CUGSL at P.O. Box 837, Bridgeton, MO 63044

or send Email to
ehummel@mail.win.org

The Commodore Users Group of St. Louis

P.O. Box 837
Bridgeton, MO 63044



Is it time to renew?

If your address label
shows the current month and year
your membership expires
this month.

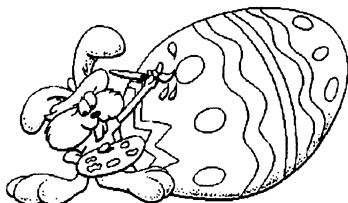
Meetings

CUGSL - 2nd Thursday each month -
7:30PM to 9:00PM - Bridgeton Trails Library
on McKelvey Rd. located one block south of
St. Charles Rock Road.

Board of Directors - 1st Thursday - same
time & location.

BASICs/Graphics SIG - 4th Wednesday
each month - 7:00PM to 9:00PM- same loca-
tion.

Other SIG Groups meet at various times
and places. Check with the SIG Leaders.



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